

The SBIR and STTR programs, as they are known, are key components in our Nation's commitment to being a global leader in research and development. If we allow these programs to expire, as they are scheduled to do at the end of this month, we will forfeit one of the best tools we have to support innovation.

Big companies do not hold a monopoly on big ideas. Small businesses, however, often lack the resources necessary to get a good idea off the ground. The SBIR and STTR programs have a long track record in helping small businesses leverage Federal support into innovative new technologies. Products developed with assistance from these programs can be found inside everything from the B-2 bomber to the electric toothbrush.

I am proud to say that some of these innovations were made in my home State of Rhode Island. Since the SBIR and STTR programs were created, Rhode Island companies have received 277 awards and almost \$100 million in Federal support.

One of those companies is EpiVax, a biotech firm located in Providence. EpiVax focuses its work in the field of immunology and has received several SBIR awards over the years. Its most recent grant supports research on the development of a type I diabetes treatment. Other projects have included a hemophilia therapy and an improved Tuberculosis vaccine.

SEA Corp. is another Rhode Island company that has benefited from both SBIR and STTR grants. Located in Middletown, SEA Corp. is a veteran-owned engineering firm. In 2000, they received an SBA award to develop launch systems for the Navy. They have taken the same kind of inflator that is used in automobile airbags and reconfigured it to shoot objects as large as a 750-pound torpedo. SEA Corp. is now adapting that technology to launch unmanned aerial vehicles from ships and submarines.

I am proud of these innovative Rhode Island projects and the contributions they have made to our country. For Rhode Islanders, though, their most significant impact has been in the jobs they have helped create. EpiVax has grown to 22 employees at their facility in Rhode Island, and SEA Corp. employs 330. At a time when my State continues to suffer from 11 percent unemployment, we cannot overlook the importance of these jobs and the role played by the SBIR and STTR in supporting them.

In Rhode Island, we have put special emphasis on promoting the "knowledge district" concept. Leaders like Brendan McNally, the director of the Rhode Island Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, have worked to bring together early-stage ventures and to foster an environment of collaboration and innovation. A handful of RI-CIE businesses have received SBIR awards and many others have expressed interest in taking advantage of the grants

to help their companies grow. If we fail to reauthorize these programs, great companies like EpiVax and SEA Corp. and so many others in Rhode Island and across the country may no longer have the resources to devote to developing the next generation of cutting-edge technologies and to create high-quality jobs in those fields.

It is clear that America must renew its commitment to being the world's leader in research and innovation. It is more than just a matter of national pride—it is an important part of creating jobs and securing our country's long-term economic well-being. The reauthorization bill would strengthen the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs and help preserve America's position as a leader in innovation.

I was discouraged that so many of my colleagues from the other side of the aisle voted to block the reauthorization of these vital programs. Simply put, this should not be a partisan issue. Given the importance of these programs to small businesses across the country, I hope that my Republican colleagues will come back to the table so that we can work together to pass a bipartisan reauthorization bill.

ISRAEL'S 63RD INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, the first months of 2011 have been marked in the Middle East by profound change as citizens have demanded greater representation and increased accountability from their governments. As many of those protesting for change were beaten and killed in the streets, a sense of uncertainty about the future of the region and the commitment of some of our allies to American values was palpable. Yet, during this time of revolution, there has been no doubt about the certainty and strength of our Nation's alliance and friendship with Israel.

Since the United States recognized Israel 11 minutes after its founding on May 14, 1948, the two countries have worked side by side to advance democracy and peace.

In a region where dictators and family rule are the norm, Israel has stood out as a beacon for democracy—a country with an independent judicial system and strong rule of law where citizens are free to worship and speak as they wish.

For those wanting better governance and more rights in the Middle East, they just have to look next door to Israel for an example of how things could be.

In advance of Yom Ha'atzmaut—Israel's Independence Day—I wish to congratulate the citizens of Israel for building a strong and vibrant country despite the myriad challenges, wars and attacks they have faced. I look forward to working in the Senate to strengthen this strategically important relationship.

REMEMBERING PRIMO CARNABUCI

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, sometime after nightfall on November 1, 1950, under the cover of a dark sky, there was a firefight north of the town of Unsan, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Unsan lies in the eastern North Pyongan province, on the western half of the peninsula. It sits peripheral to the Kuryong River, which cuts a steep valley through the land as it channels out into the Korea Bay. Unsan also lies north of the 38th parallel and was enemy territory for the U.S. 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, which had taken up position there just days before.

The regiment was part of a northward advance toward the Sino-Korean border, in aggressive pursuit of a weakened, retreating North Korean enemy. But as it advanced, it encountered a ferocious counteroffensive lead by Chinese forces, absorbing tragic casualties at the hands of damaging defeat. As the regiment retreated south back across the Kuryong, it was forced to leave behind many brothers in arms. Almost 600 Americans fell that day, many of whom were declared missing in action, MIA, never to be found.

Among the regiment was Primo Carnabuci of Essex, CT. Primo came from a family of patriots; his two brothers, Dominic and Louis, also served our country in uniform. Anecdotes about Primo from the battlefield paint the picture of a tenaciously courageous fighter. In one such story, outlined in a military document awarding him a Distinguished Service Cross for heroism, as reported by the Middletown Press, Primo was temporarily sidelined from battle after killing three enemy soldiers and taking grenade shrapnel to the face. As he was being attended to by a medic, Primo, according to the document, "thrust away the aid man, picked up his rifle, and with utter disregard for his own safety, advanced into the fire of the enemy machine gun with blood streaming down his face."

His brother Dominic was not surprised to hear that story. And it is safe to say that, as his regiment encountered those Chinese forces on that November night in 1950, Primo did not shy away from danger, but rather took the fight to the enemy, even as it overwhelmed his regiment. He ultimately perished in that battle and was declared MIA, leaving his family back home in Connecticut heartbroken and unsure about where he was, and whether he was alive or dead.

Suppressed in history's pages between the Second World War and the Vietnam war, the Korean war is often referred to as the "Unknown War," or as the "Forgotten War." While Primo Carnabuci's whereabouts were unknown to his family, he was certainly not forgotten. Every night since then, his brother Dominic has prayed that his brother would be found, and returned safely and soundly.

Miraculously, that prayer was answered, in part, just a few months ago,

when Dominic received a phone call from a U.S. Government official. Primo's body had been found in a mass gravesite surrounded by several of his compatriots and identified by DNA. Now, Primo has left Unsan, and he is coming back home to Connecticut.

As we gaze across the endless expanse of graves at Arlington Ceremony, or as we mourn the loss of a servicemember during a military burial somewhere across our land today, we must think about those who paid the ultimate sacrifice of not returning home alive but also not returning home at all. This country and its freedoms that we enjoy exist because men and women like Primo Carnabuci have defended it. Many have fallen for it so that we might live in freedom, and unfortunately, some of those who have fallen do not have the solace of having America as their final resting place.

On Thursday, Primo Carnabuci will be buried in Clinton, CT, with full military honors. As the crack of rifle fire and the cry of a bugle ripple through the air, and as the colors that Primo wore the uniform for are draped across his coffin, I hope that Dominic and the entire Carnabuci family will feel relief that Primo has come home and pride in his service. America is where he belongs, and America is where he will now forever rest in peace.

God bless Primo Carnabuci, God bless his family, and God bless the United States of America.

FUTURE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor 349 high school seniors in 10 northeast Ohio counties for their commendable decision to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces. Of these 349 seniors from 116 high schools in 104 towns and cities, 98 will enter the Army, 134 will enter the Marine Corps, 42 will enter the Navy, 25 will enter the Air Force, and 50 will enter our Ohio Army National Guard. In the presence of their parents or guardians, high school counselors, military leaders, city and business leaders, all 349 are being recognized on May 12, 2011, by "Our Community Salutes of Cleveland."

Later this month, these young men and women will join with many of their classmates in celebration of graduation. At a time when many of their peers are looking forward to pursuing vocational training or college degrees, or are uncertain about their future, these young men and women instead have chosen to dedicate themselves to military service in defense of our country.

Naturally, many may be anxious about the uncertainties that may await them as members of the Armed Forces. But, they should rest assured that the full support and resources of this Chamber, and the American people, are with them in whatever challenges may lie ahead.

It is thanks to the dedication of an untold number of patriots like these

349 that we are able to meet here today, in the U.S. Senate, and openly debate the best solutions to the many diverse problems that confront our country. It is thanks to their sacrifices that the United States of America remains a beacon of hope and freedom in a fractious world. We are grateful to them, their parents and their communities for instilling the character, values, discipline and mental and physical abilities of these outstanding young men and women.

Their decision to serve our country will not go unrecognized as we thank these 349 graduating seniors for the selflessness and courage that they have shown by volunteering to risk their lives in defense of others. We owe them, along with all those who serve our country, a deep debt of gratitude.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the list of names of the high school seniors.

There being no objection the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

United States Army—98:
 Albright—Cleveland; Bankston—Ash-
 tabula; Barnes—Cleveland; Benz—Lakewood;
 Bodenski—Sheffield Village; Bradshaw—
 Akron; Burke—Garfield Heights; Burney—
 Akron; Carroll—Columbia Station;
 Chrosniak—Sheffield; Ciano—Kent; Clady—
 Elyria; Corponoi—Cleveland; Cristarella—
 Richmond; Dixon—Maple Heights;
 Dunaway—Brooklyn; Ebanoidze—Parma;
 Ellis—Kent; English—Geneva; Errington—
 Clinton; Fioritto—Concord Township; Fish-
 er, A—Amherst; Fleischmann—Kingsville;
 Gibbons—Columbia Station; Giles—Cleve-
 land; Gluntz—Parma; Gonzalez—Lorain; Gor-
 ham—Ravenna; Grenig—Parma; Hadsell—
 Wayland; Haslam—Akron; Haworth—Kent;
 Helmick—Norton; Hooks—Euclid; Hooper—
 Chagrin Falls; Horner—Sheffield; Houdek,
 L—Bedford; Huertas—Parma; Hutson—Lake-
 wood; Irby—Tinsley—Cleveland; Jackson, C—
 Euclid; Jackson, M—Cleveland; Kantola—
 Kingsville; Khan—Cleveland; Kirby—Ash-
 tabula; Klein—Rock Creek; Kovach—Ando-
 ver; Lanier—Cleveland; Laubenthal—Sul-
 livan; Liubin—Mayfield Heights; Lutton—
 Madison; Mackell—Aurora; Maley—West
 Salem; Malone—Parma; Mamus—Broadview
 Heights; McCown—Akron; McDaniel—La-
 grange; McFaul—Chesterland; Meinke—Me-
 dina; Millhouse—Kent; Miramontes—
 Chesterland; Mozek—Madison; Muska—
 South Amherst; Oakes—Pierpoint; Pesec—
 Painesville; Petro—Ashtabula; Popek—In-
 dependence; Porter, J—Kent; Porter, L—
 Akron; Prendergast—North Royalton; Price,
 J—Norton; Rainey—Cleveland; Ray, D—
 Rootstown; Reese—Wellington; Roberts, T—
 Akron; Robinson—Euclid; Roper—Akron;
 Sarota—Elyria; Schwinn—Vermilion;
 Shelton—Lorain; Shumate—Elyria;
 Stephan—Brecksville; Stephens—Euclid;
 Stocker—Windham; Storms—Akron;
 Stowers—Vermilion; Sullivan—Lorain;
 Thomas—Conneaut; Travis—North
 Ridgeville; Unrue—Mogadore; Vance—Ash-
 tabula; West—Lagrange; White, D—Lake-
 wood; White, J—Parma; Witczak—North
 Royalton; Woods—Cleveland; Yarbrough—
 Cleveland.

United States Marine Corps—134:
 Aguiar—Medina; Anthony—Akron; Arraj—
 Cleveland; Atterbury—East Lake; Austin—
 Garfield Heights; Babusharvey—Maple
 Heights; Baker, B—Kirtland; Beirne—Me-
 dina; Benigni—Brunswick; Bergdorf—
 Tallmadge; Biro—Middleburgh Heights;

Block—Sheffield Lake; Bohne—Cleveland;
 Boomer—Hudson; Bowen—North Olmsted;
 Bozin—North Olmsted; Brabson, G—Parma;
 Brill—Sheffield; Bruner—Willoughby;
 Bruno—Hudson; Buras—Hudson;
 Burlinghaus—Middleburgh Heights;
 Catavolos—Rocky River; Chase—Sagamore;
 Chesek—North Royalton; Clark, J—Shaker
 Heights; Colon—Broadview Heights; Cool—
 Wasdworth; Cottingham—Shaker Heights;
 Cruse—Brunswick; Davis, B—Mantua; Davis,
 E—Cleveland; Dekoning—Avon; Dodd—
 Cuhahoga Fall; Draughton—Cleveland;
 Ezell—Lagrange; Fadenholz—Elyria; Fink—
 North Royalton; Fisher, J—Cleveland;
 Fortner—Northfield; Fox—Akron; Gatliff—
 Wellington; Gerhart—Munroe Falls; Gill—
 Brunswick; Gonzales—Brooklyn; Graf, T—
 Ravenna; Graw—North Olmsted; Harmon—
 Elyria; Harter—Columbia Station; Hartley—
 Ravenna; Hasan—Cleveland; Heinzman—
 Brunswick; Hicken—Cleveland; Hobart—
 Akron; Houchins—Chesterland; Hufford—
 Cleveland; Jefferys—Akron; Jordan—Bay
 Village; Kaczmarek—Mentor; Keeran—
 Magadore; Kepple—Hiram; King—Cuyahoga
 Falls; Kinker—Diamond; Koleszar—Paines-
 ville; Ksenich—Amherst; Kubasky—Parma;
 Lang—Avon Lake; Likovic—Eastlake;
 Long—Mogadore; Lorwanphet—Cleveland;
 Lucas—Spencer; Martell—Cleveland; Mar-
 tin—Lyndhurst; Martinez—Cleveland;
 Martz—Hudson; Mayton—Avon; McComb—
 Euclid; McKinney—Shaker Heights; Mol-
 nar—Chardon; Moran—Cuyahoga Falls; Nich-
 ols, E—Cleveland; Nichols, T—Madison;
 Olexadolyk—Amherst; Palmer—Barberton;
 Parker—Medina; Parkham—Cleveland;
 Parr—Ravenna; Peck—Litchfield; Peele—
 Hudson; Perry, D—Euclid; Perry, M—Akron;
 Peterjohn—Seven Hills; Phillips—Barberton;
 Poole—Cleveland; Price, J—Norton;
 Pritschau—Perry; Prokop—Mentor; Puelo—
 Streetsboro; Quella—Strongsville;
 Quercioli—North Ridgeville; Ray, J—Cuya-
 hoga Falls; Reese—Clinton; Reinhart—Wads-
 worth; Richards, A—Grafton; Richards, M—
 Sheffield Lake; Riolo—Columbia Station;
 Roberts, K—Akron; Roberts, T—Akron; Rob-
 ertson—Cleveland; Rogers—North Ridgeville;
 Rooney—Westlake; Rosenkranz—Medina;
 Salcedo—Cleveland; Shirey—Barberton;
 Slattery—Painesville; Snyder, J—Wel-
 lington; Spelic—Medina; Stanton—North
 Ridgeville; Steinel—Medina; Stephen—Cleve-
 land; Sterk—Wakeman; Swartwood—Norton;
 Switzer—Brunswick; Venus—Seville; Walters
 Brunswick; Wayman—Berlin Heights;
 Weese—Akron; Werdebaugh—Wellington;
 Westfall—Norton; Willis—Wellington; Wil-
 son, R—Ravenna; Woodyard—Richfield;
 Zeigler—Medina; Zwegat—Broadview
 Heights.

United States Navy—42:
 Adkins—Ashtabula; Armbrust—Wads-
 worth; Barchanowicz—Ashtabula; Bennett—
 Wellington; Borelli—Fairport Harbor;
 Boscalion—Lodi; Brown—Wellington;
 Coffey—Geneva; Dane—Avon; Dickson—
 Madison; Doniver—Cleveland; Evans—Can-
 ton; Fipps—Warrensville; Graham—Geneva;
 Guthrie—Medina; Hamid—Avon Lake;
 Helderman—North Olmsted; Houdek, A—Ge-
 neva; Jackson, A—Ashtabula; Keith—Elyria;
 Lindak—North Ridgeville; Machesky—Am-
 herst; Minnich—Elyria; Mitchell—
 Warrensville Heights; Montgomery—
 Litchfield; Mullins—Sullivan; Olbrish—Men-
 tor; Pillari—Strongsville; Reid—Parma
 Heights; Rice—Vermilion; Richards, J—
 Warrensville Heights; Roig—Olmsted Falls;
 Schuler—North Ridgeville; Sidwell—Medina;
 Smith—Warrensville Heights; Squire—New
 London; Tomaszycchi—Elyria; Towell—Spen-
 cer; Verdi—Ashtabula; Waites—Concord;
 Wilson, A—Vermilion; Zappitella—Conneaut.
 United States Air Force—25:
 Baade—South Euclid; Baird—Broadview
 Heights; Brandt—Brookpark; Callahan—